

# Evidence-Based Medicine Workgroup

March 12, 2012

# Hand Hygiene

- December meeting raised some questions about hospital participation and adherence to standardized hand hygiene observation method and data collection
- Also raised question about hospital leadership inclusion in HH project, with delayed dissemination of performance feedback to hospitals

# Interim Activities

- Maryland Patient Safety Center, MHA, and DHMH devised an Action Plan with metrics and timetables geared to:
  - 1) Increase number of hospitals participating
  - 2) Inform hospitals about their performance in terms of satisfying requirements to be included in the statewide aggregate data

# Interim Activities

- Relaunch of hospital initiative. Of original 30 participants:
  - All 30 are using the standard methodology and data reporting; in December, 15 hospitals met the minimum requirements for data inclusion in the statewide aggregate
  - 16 have been non-participators.
    - Of the 16, MHA has received 8 re-commitments to the project as of 3/8/12

# Interim Activities

- National HH expert Trish Perl, M.D., has been consulting on improved participation and performance
- Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Administration staff, including Lucy Wilson, M.D., have joined as data consultants

# Discussion of Other Options

- December meeting also raised issue of Secretary's authority to regulate a statewide HH program
- COMAR 10.07.01.34A requires each hospital to have an “active hospital-wide program for the prevention, control, and investigation of communicable diseases and infections.” Program must include a hand hygiene component that monitors staff compliance and maintains documentation of compliance audits. COMAR 10.07.01.34F(3)

# Other Options, Cont'd

- COMAR 10.06.01.06A Secretary shall
  - 1) take any action or measure necessary to prevent the spread of communicable disease or to control a reportable disease and condition; and
  - 2) issue, when necessary, special instructions for control of a disease or condition

# Next Steps

- MHA to continue to facilitate increased participation among hospitals and units
- MHA to distribute hospital CEO dashboards, including HH and hospital acquired infection data
- MPSC to develop enhancements of HandStats data base
- MPSC to train new participants, so they may fully participate beginning July 1, 2012
- DHMH development of a statewide public HH campaign